



THE Tuzla Times

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"The Wings of Task Force Eagle"



Image by Staff Sgt. Rodney Jones, 1st Combat Camera deployed

Congratulations

General Michael E. Ryan, commander of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Allied Air Forces Central Europe, congratulates Master Sgt. Ed Bartok, 4100th Group (P) Operations Squadron Communications Flight superintendent, after awarding him the NATO Service Medal during a ceremony here Tuesday. Ryan also presented the medal to eight more members of the 4100th. While at Tuzla Air Base, Ryan reviewed the mission and met new members of the 4100th Group(P).

Four-day passes approved for 4100th Group

by Tech. Sgt. Mark "Pop Tart" Tartt
Travel Correspondent

This story starts with the approval and selection of the first 4100th Group R&R trip to Taszar Air Base, Hungary.

This first step was picking a suitable troop commander. The first shirt thought long and hard to pick an individual to accept this mission. He selected the honorable, Master Sgt. Ed "Skippy" Herring, the 4100th PERSCO chief, to lead this fact-finding "boondoggle." The remaining five members of the squad were selected by various section chiefs.

As our Herk tore off Tuzla's runway, we

prepared ourselves for some well-deserved R&R. When we finally arrived at Taszar, we were greeted by the local first shirt, Senior Master Sgt. Bill Thompson, who transported us to the Air Force village.

After changing into authentic civilian clothes, we received a complimentary tour of the compound. The area was set up very nicely, much like Tuzla, with our own all-too-familiar chow hall and Post Exchange. However, there was a beer tent a mere 500 feet from our lovely accommodations. After our tour, we received confirmation of our reservations at a local Ramada hotel in Budapest the next day.

We departed for Budapest the following

morning, in a bus chauffeured by our own

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Task Force Eagle Scoreboard



Scheduled:	3,706
Total Flown:	3,108
PAX:	25,181
Cargo (Short Tons):	24,192
Vehicles:	1,284
Patients Medevaced:	618

'Iron Soldiers' offer lesson for Air Force

by Master Sgt. Terry "Sheriff" Speer
4100th Group (P) First Sergeant

"Iron Soldiers take care of each other" is a phrase you hear and see all over Task Force Eagle. As members of the Air Force, we might not pay much attention to this because we perceive it to be an "Army thing."

But, the fact that these signs are plastered all over base, makes a clear and resounding statement about how the Army feels about working together and watching out for their fellow soldiers. With a closer look, I'm sure you'll agree these words apply to us too. This concept of teamwork and taking care of each other is not something unique to the Army.

Teamwork is vital to the mission of the 4100th. In the beginning of June, when I first stepped onto the taxiway at Charlie 1, I

was met with sights and sounds at which I was awestruck.

Of course the first thing I saw was three 10K forklifts, lined up as if preparing for inspection. Their engines were running, waiting to off-load pallets. The engines on the C-130 Herk never stopped turning. Passengers and cargo were taken away and within moments, new people and cargo were loaded again.

As I stood on the main ramp, I watched the Herk depart for its return trip to Ramstein. I remember being amazed at how quickly it had all happened. It was at that moment I knew I was in for a great tour.

Since that day, I've experienced many examples of Air Force teamwork in action. I've learned there are many folks behind the scenes here making that aircraft turn around so fast. Everyone from the "Paddle Puppies"

to the "Fire Dogs" makes us one great team. But its not just our ability to work together that makes this mission function effectively. Looking out for each other, and everyone's well being, is an important factor in mission accomplishment.

The crux of the meaning, "Iron Soldiers take care of each other," is the implication each one of us is responsible for making sure we all make it home safely.

Think about it! The environment we all live in makes it critical. Every day we live with the possibility we'll have to run for the bunkers. We live in close quarters with up to 10 people in a tent and share all sorts of facilities. It gets very dark and not everyone stationed here has your best interests at heart.

Taking care of each other means doing everything you can to reduce any possible risk to your fellow airman. If the Force Protection level changes, let everyone you come in contact with know about it.

When you see people who don't belong in your neighbor's area, question them. If one of the members of our group is out late at night, offer escort! When you see someone committing an unsafe act, stop them! Get the idea? The concept of "Force Protection" goes beyond the matrix we all see and the equipment we wear. Force Protection means watching out for our folks. It's the most important thing we do.

Let's face it, without each other, Tuzla Air Base would come to a screeching halt! As you walk around "Air Force Country" look at all the different things people do. Now, take any person or function away from us and see what happens. How's the picture look now?

As I said, "Iron Soldiers take care of each other," and so do we! Let's keep the spirit of mutual support alive and keep those Herks turning fast. But most importantly, keep looking out for each other. Make sure that when our time is up and we're getting on that "Freedom Bird" home, it'll be a safe ride.



Image by Senior Airman Phillip Ulmer

Cleaning it up

Airman 1st Class Dallas Wirtz, 4100th Group(P) Logistics Squadron Aerial Port Flight, removes the air deflector assembly from his gas mask during combat readiness training Monday. The next combat readiness training class will cover force protection and security. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. in the fest tent.



THE Tuzla Times

Published for the men and women of the 4100th Group (P)

"The Wings of Task Force Eagle"

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News Briefs

Top 4

The next Top 4 meeting will be at 5 p.m. Saturday in the PERSCO conference room. Topics of discussion will include: Upcoming events, committee reports, dinning-in and the Labor Day picnic.

First 5

The next First 5 meeting will be at 3 p.m. Sunday in the PERSCO conference room. Topics will include: T-shirts, funds and future projects. Everyone between the ranks of airman basic and staff sergeant is welcome to attend.

In processing

The next in processing briefing will be in the fest tent at 9 a.m. Saturday. This is mandatory for everyone new to the base.

Out processing

If you're on your way home, remember that the out processing and medical surveys briefing will be at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday in the fest tent. Everyone planning on departing Tuzla prior to September 5 is required to attend. Medical Screening will be conducted Wednesday.

Tent chief's meeting

There will be a gathering of tent chiefs at 6 p.m. Monday in the fest tent. Tent chiefs should bring a roster with ranks and names of all the people living in their tent. This meeting is mandatory for occupants in all 18 tents in Tent City and Building 9. If you can't be there, send the next ranking person.

PT rules

During the last increase in force protection there was some confusion as to whether or not running on base could continue. The answer is no. Anytime the force protection is raised so that it includes the wear of flak vests, running will stop. PT may continue, however, as long as force protection clothing is worn to or from the facility or PT area.

New running hours

Dining Facility Loop - 24 hours a day. This route includes Eagle Way from the access road to the intersection at the dinning facility, turn right up past the chapel.

Old Eagle Way (Main Street) from Gate 1 to flightline during daylight hours ONLY!

Grant-Eisenhower Loop: Daylight hours ONLY!

Longstreet Loop: Leading to the East Gate 5 to 8 a.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. daily.

Registration ends soon

Registration for this term ends Sunday. Two upper level classes, Psych and Business, are being offered this term. Contact the education center for more details.

CLEP tests

Tests will be administered August 16 to 18 at 7 and 8 p.m. See the education center for details.

Steel Castle volleyball

Volleyball maniacs, there will be a volleyball round robin at Steel Castle Sunday! Three teams, Steel Castle, Comanche, and Eagle will vie for the title. Sign up for Eagle Team at Club 21.

Making it better

The dining facility, a.k.a. DEFAC, has formed a council of representatives, designed to help us make the food services here better.

Your DEFAC Council representatives are Master Sgt. Terry Speer (First Sergeant) and Airman 1st Class Marius Francisco (passanger service representative). The council meets every month to discuss the quality of food, atmosphere of the building, and general food service!

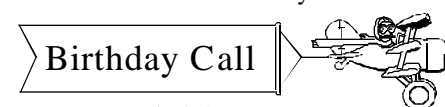
The contractors want to hear your ideas, complaints, and compliments! The German Night we had a week ago was a direct result of someone's suggestion. If you have suggestions or ideas, please forward them through your representatives, or fill out a customer comment card. Be heard!

3 on 3

There will be a three-on-three basketball tournament at 4 p.m. Saturday at Gabby Gardens. Register by 1 p.m. Saturday by calling Airman 1st Class Zachary McCabe at ext. 115 or Capt. Carol Thompson at ext. 106.

Uniform tip

Soft caps may not be worn under the helmet! Wear of soft caps prohibits ventilation and is unhealthy.



Happy Birthday to everyone assigned to the 4100th Group who celebrates a birthday this week!

Tech. Sgt. Murlin Green has a birthday Sunday and Airman Mario Montoya celebrates Thursday.

PASSES

Continued from Page 1

Air Force driver at 9 a.m. The three-hour ride through the Hungarian countryside was both relaxing and beautiful. Much to my surprise there was no mud.

After arriving at our hotel, with its marble floors, bellhops, cocktail lounge, elevators, and spectacular view of the Duna river, we checked in. The rooms were fantastic. There was nothing more that we needed. We had real beds, cable TV, room service, and to top it off, huge bath tubs. I'm not talking your average take a bath and towel off bath tub. These came complete with unlimited hot,

clear water.

The hotel had several additional amenities to include: mineral baths, steam rooms and in- and out-door swimming pools. There is also a MWR office at the hotel, which supplies free shuttle buses to numerous tourist stops throughout the Budapest area. The prices for the rooms were affordable. A double room was \$45 a night each. If you wanted your own room it was \$65.00.

After experiencing Budapest, we moved to lake Ballaton, which was about a two-hour drive south. Here, we stayed in an Army MWR hotel. The rooms weren't as

snazzy, but they only cost \$27.50 a night.

This hotel sets on the front of a picturesque lake. MWR offers activities throughout the area. Bicycles, paddle boats, windsurfers and horseback riding are all available at reasonable prices.

There are bus rides to local shopping districts and tourist hot spots, and additional excursions are available through the front desk.

Overall, it was a fantastic four days. I recommend, that if you have a chance to partake in this adventure, go for it... it's an experience you will never forget.